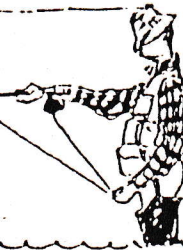


TIGHT LINES



NEWSLETTER OF THE RABUN CHAPTER
TROUT UNLIMITED

DECEMBER 1989

DECEMBER MEETING TO BE HELD ON THE 19TH

The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited will be held on Tuesday evening, December 19, 1989, at the Rabun County Library beginning at 7PM. We will have a social hour starting at 6:30.

While we will not have a program as such, we do need a good turnout to approve, disapprove or amend the slate of officers for the coming year. Unless there is a change offered by the attending membership, last year's officers will serve another year.

Another item of great importance is finalization of our plans for the upcoming RABUN RENDEVOUS in January. As any of you know if you attended last year's get-together, not only is this a great "pass a good time", it should raise some much needed funds to continue with our various projects. So, come on out on the 19th, volunteer your services and/or food and drink to assure this RABUN RENDEVOUS a huge success!!!

MONTE SEEHORN SPEAKS AT NOVEMBER MEETING

Monte Seehorn, U. S. Forest Service and fellow chapter member, addressed an almost packed house on the subject of the effects of timber cutting on trout habitat. With slides and many years (make that many, many years) of experience, Monte made a good case ^{for} selective clear-cutting and selective cutting in our National Forests. Summarizing the points made during the program is difficult but it might be that when full consideration is given to minimizing the erosion of and siltation of our streams, logging operations should have alternatives to just selective cutting. The road building activity seems to have the greatest impact on trout streams and every precaution should be taken to eliminate erosion and siltation.

While a cutover area may be unsightly when first viewed, in a short time these areas provide browse for game and non-game wildlife. Virgin stands of timber provide little food for either. We thank Monte for providing a lot of food for thought and a real give and take session.

In this same vein, Jim Nixon has written a letter of support to Seehorn, and urging that timber managers be increasingly aware of the adverse effects of earth scarification to cold water resources, and utilize great care in selecting whatever harvest method and preventative measures that are necessary.

RABUN CHAPTER ENDORSES THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE UPPER CHATTOOGA

The Rabun Chapter concurs with the recommendations contained in the Fisheries Survey of the Upper Chattooga (Project F-25) and requests consideration of the following:

1. Return to Brown Trout stocking immediately. Suggest a 50/50 ratio of stocking for Browns and Rainbows.
2. Use Tasmanian type of Rainbow.
3. Promote policy of "cold water discharge" for all ponds in the upper Chattooga watershed, such as, the Pig Pen Branch Lake (Thrift Lake)
4. Give higher priority to USFS land acquisition in the upper Chattooga watershed.

MIDNIGHT POACHING

In the black inkiness of a moonless night he inched ever closer to the edge of the little pond nestled in behind the house. Over his shoulder the dim lights glowed unsuspectingly from the home. Spotting the rise form in the soft light's reflection, he false casted the Black Marabou tipped with corn over the feeding trout. The rod tip dropped and the fly sank beneath the water's surface. The Rainbow seized the offering instantly before being hauled in to the waiting net. Again the Marabou flicked out into the night and another unsuspecting trout took the corn tipped clump of feathers. The poacher slipped the two fish into his attache case, eased into his car and drove back to Greensboro.

The next morning, Jim Nixon noted with some disgust that Rainbow #6, weighing 6½ lbs and Rainbow #9 at 5 lbs didn't show up for breakfast. The YUPPIE POACHER HAD STRUCK AGAIN!!!

USFS AND TROUT UNLIMITED PLAN WORK PROJECTS

Representatives from TU Chapters from across the state met with Forest Service personell in Dahlonaga to plan work projects for the coming year. The meeting preceded the Georgia Council meeting and was swell attended. The Rabun Chapter approved two dates, one in April and another in September, to continue our work on the Reed Creek watershed. Details and the exact day will be announced in future TIGHT LINES.

While much of the planning session covered ways and means of getting out more chapter personnel, the Rabun Chapter was congratulated several times for getting such willing members to our work projects. If you haven't been able to give us a hand this past year, make it a point to make this a priority in 1990. We will be building more new stream structures as well as doing a little maintenance on existing ones.

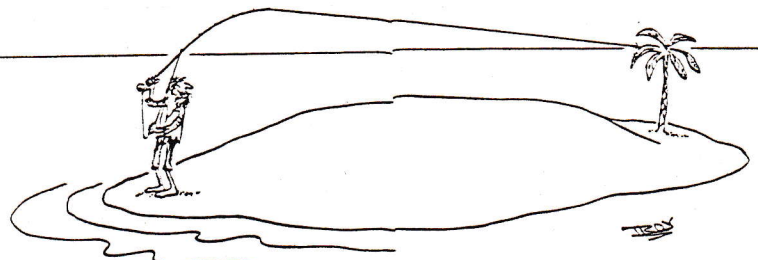
In passing you might think of Doug Adams and Jim Nixon who may still be over in Lumpkin County at the Smith House or casting from the top of Doug's car in the Chestatee River. While in the meeting, the snow came down in earnest and your editor fled with Doug Watson of the Forest Service. "Hawg" and "Nugget" stayed to the everlasting end. Hopefully, they are home by now.

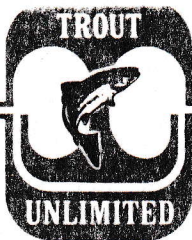
ON YOUR GEORGIA STATE INCOME TAX FORM CHECK "YES" FOR NONGAME WILDLIFE!!!!!!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL

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THE RABUN RENDEZVOUS

"The rendezvous was unlike anything before or since, a gathering of uninhibited men down from the mountains. The event attracted perhaps a hundred mountain men, their Indian wives, and assorted visiting tribesmen. Amusements included gambling, drinking, storytelling, - - - continuing day and night." Quote from The Mountain Men by George Laycock.

The Rabun Chapter will again host this annual gathering:

- When:** Saturday, 13 January 1990, starting at 4:30.
- Where:** American Legion Post 220, Clayton (left side of Warwoman Road approximately 3/4 mile East of the Heart of Rabun Motel).
- Who:** Anyone interested in protecting our cold water resources, including TU People, USFS People, State Fisheries People, their families and friends from GA, S.C. and N.C.
- Social:** 4:30 to 6:30; Live Bluegrass Music by The Foxtire Boys, Cozy Fireplace, Fishing Videos, Snacks, Bucket Raffle and Silent Auction.
- Dinner:** 6:30 to 7:30; Bear, Venison, Fish & Hushpuppies Salad Bar, Coleslaw, Potatoes, Breads, Deserts, Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks and Beer.
- Program:** 7:30; Chattooga Management Recommendations by Jeff Durniak; Keynote address by Ben Dysart, Past President of the National Wildlife Federation.
- Cost:** \$10 per person (\$5 for children)
PLUS
a "covered dish" of either:
Potatoes (baked, fried, salad or anyway you like) or
Bread (biscuits, rolls, french, etc.) or
Desert (cake, pie, cobbler, cookies, etc.)
- Special Request:** Each TU Chapter that participates in Rendezvous is requested to bring an item for the bucket raffle.

Reservations: Please call either:

- Jim Nixon - 404-746-5311 (B)
404-782-3101 (H)
- Doug Adams - 404-746-5311 (B)
404-746-2158 (H)
- Tom Landreth - 404-754-9202 (B) & (H)

